

REMARKS

The present reply is responsive to the Office Action dated June 29, 2004. Original claims 1-9 are present in the instant application.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Clayton et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 6,665,190 ("*Clayton*"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Independent claims 1 and 2 each require "a guide support provided in each of said loading sections and extending in a direction transverse to said insertion opening for guiding the insertion of said integrated circuit chips into said loading sections." Independent claim 5 includes a similar limitation. Independent claim 6 requires "a guide support unit provided on a side of said main body unit for guiding the insertion of said main body unit into the adaptor device."

Clayton is directed to a modular PC card including removable modules. "The PC Card modules 12 are removably inserted into the modular PC Card 10 to provide desired functionality to the PC Card 10." (Col. 4, lns. 30-32.) As pointed out by the Examiner in the Office Action, *Clayton* discloses one or more slots 28. (See Office Action, page 2, numbered paragraph 2.) *Clayton* expressly defines the term 'slot' "to refer to the receptacle or void in which the module 12 is inserted." (Col. 4, lns. 29-30.) While the Examiner identified several elements in *Clayton* (such as element 28) that the Examiner maintains are similar to some of the limitations of the independent claims, the Examiner did not identify any specific element in *Clayton* that comprises a "guide support" or a "guide support unit."

Moreover, a thorough examination of *Clayton* does not reveal any teaching or suggestion of a "guide support" or a "guide support unit" provided in each of the loading sections as in the claimed invention.

Clayton is deficient in anticipating the claimed invention because it does not include each and every element of the claimed invention. Therefore, because *Clayton* lacks a disclosure or teaching of all of the elements of independent claims 1, 2, 5 and 6, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of these claims. Claims 2-4 and 7-8 depend from claims 2 and 6, respectively, and contain all of the limitations thereof as well as other limitations that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record. Accordingly, applicants submit that the dependent claims are likewise patentable.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Fan*, U.S. Patent No. 6,665,736 ("*Fan*"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Independent claim 9 requires "a guide support unit provided on a side of said main body unit for guiding the insertion of said main body unit into or removal of said main body unit from the adaptor device."

Fan discloses a "dummy card" that is inserted into a dual in line memory module (DIMM). The dummy card includes some circuitry and leads for passing electrical and/or power signals through the card. (See col. 5, lns. 1-22; see also FIGS. 4A-B.) However, as in *Clayton*, a thorough examination of *Fan* does not reveal any disclosure, teaching or suggestion of a "guide support unit" provided on a side of the main body unit as specified in claim 9. While the Examiner has identified several elements in *Fan* (such as dummy chip 501) that the Examiner maintains are similar to some of the limitations of claim 9, the Examiner did not identify any specific element in *Fan* that comprises a "guide support unit." *Fan* does not include each and every element of the claimed invention. Therefore, because *Fan* lacks a disclosure or teaching of all of the elements of

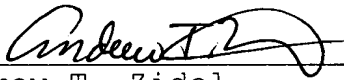
independent claim 9, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claim.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Office Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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